

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please make the following amendments to the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 27 as follows:

Vents according to the present invention may be placed to cause sample fluid to flow along specific pathways and to delay fluid flow through a sensor. Such applications are useful to improve mixing between sample fluid and a reagent, and to more precisely control the timing of fluid flow through a sensor. FIGS. 5a-5d are time-elapse images of a sensor 56 having two vents 58a,b placed in staggered positions to create a tortuous path for sample fluid 42 to follow. FIG. 5a shows sample fluid 42 entering the sensor 56 and being led along a fluid pathway 60 by sample guide edges 44 of the vents 58a,b. In FIG. 5a, the sample fluid 42 recently entered the sensor 56 and has been guided across a first electrode 18 by the sample guide edges 44 of a first vent 58a. The leading edge 46 of the sample fluid 42 is between the first electrode 18 and the second electrode 20.

Please make the following amendments to the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 16 as follows:

Tortuous pathways such as the one shown in FIGS. 5a-5d result in additional mixing between sample fluid 42 and reagent 34 within the sensor 56 due to increased turbulence resulting from the turns of the sample fluid 42 along the fluid pathway 60. Further, significant time delays can result from the use of a tortuous fluid pathway 60. For example, a sensor 56 as shown FIGS. 5a-5d according to some embodiments allows for delays of one to five seconds between initial insertion of fluid into the sensor and complete progression of the sample fluid along the fluid pathway. The timing of fluid flow along the fluid pathway may be changed by narrowing or widening the pathway or by making the fluid pathway longer or shorter, for example by employing different sizes of vents 58a,b in different locations defining the fluid pathway.